

REMARKS

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings with the following paragraph:

"The drawings are objected to because numbers, arrows and pointing lines are made by handwriting. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance."

As stated in M.P.E.P. § 608.02(b), informal drawings will be accepted as satisfying the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.51. The Examiner can only use the form paragraph that the Examiner used if there is a defect in the content of the drawing. The Examiner's note states that use of this form paragraph should be extremely rare and limited to those instances where no examination can be performed due to the poor quality of the drawings, resulting in a lack of understanding of the claimed subject matter. Applicant submits that the drawings are sufficiently clear for purposes of proceeding with examination. The Examiner's objection to the drawings because the numbers, arrows, and pointing lines are made by handwriting is thus improper. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's objection.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the title, stating that the title is not descriptive. The title has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's objections.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 9-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ko. This includes independent claim 1. Applicant submits that these claims, as amended, are not anticipated by Ko.

Claim 1, as amended, now includes the limitation of claim 5, which has been cancelled.

Ko discloses a fan 2 having a single set of blades. The fan is surrounded by fins 12 and 13. There are no blades of the fan surrounding any one of the fins 12 and 13. The fan does not have a rotor component and both a first set of blades within and a second set of blades around a set of fins.

Claim 1 specifically includes the limitation of a second set of blades mounted to the rotor component around the first set of fins, air leaving the first set of blades, passing over the first set of fins, whereafter the air is expelled by the second set of blades. Claim 1 is thus not anticipated by Ko because Ko fails to disclose at least one element of claim 1.

Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-4 and 9-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ko.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner's allowance of claims 17-19 is noted with appreciation.

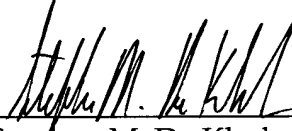
Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Stephen M. De Klerk at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

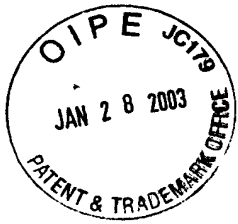
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: January 22, 2003



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VERSION OF AMENDED TITLE AND CLAIMS
WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

In the Title

[A] RADIAL AIR FLOW FAN ASSEMBLY [FOR A COMPUTER] HAVING
STATOR FINS SURROUNDING ROTOR BLADES

In the Claims

Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice.

1. (Amended) A fan assembly for a computer, comprising:

a stator component;

a rotor component mounted to the stator component for rotation about an axis;

a first set of blades mounted to the rotor component, the blades expelling air therefrom in a radial direction away from the axis upon rotation of the rotor component; [and]

a first set of fins mounted to the stator component in an arrangement at least partially surrounding the first set of blades[.]; and

a second set of blades mounted to the rotor component around the first set of fins, air leaving the first set of blades passing over the first set of fins, whereafter the air is expelled by the second set of blades.

6. (Amended) The fan assembly of claim [5] 1 further comprising:

a second set of fins mounted to the stator component, the air being expelled by the second set of blades passing over the second set of fins.